

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 NEA-09 RSC-01

SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15

STR-01 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 COME-00

FRB-01 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 /121 W

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R 162246Z JAN 75

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8809

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 0141

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:ETRD, UR, UN

SUBJ: 1972 TRADE ACCORD

1. BRITISH AND FRG UN MISSION ECONOMIC OFFICERS TOLD USUN MISOFF JANUARY 15 THAT USSR MISOFF GLEB SMIRNOV HAD APPROACHED THEM TO DISCUSS REPERCUSSIONS OF USSR REJECTION OF 1972 TRADE ACCORD BETWEEN THE US AND USSR. MR. SIMON HEMANS OF UK UN, WHO WAS FORMERLY STATIONED IN MOSCOW, SAID THAT SMIRNOV HAD QUESTIONED HIM CLOSELY REGARDING EUROPEAN AND EC-9 REACTION. HEMANS SAID THAT SMIRNOV APPEARED TO BE ANXIOUS AND THAT THE MANNER OF APPROACH AND CONTENT OF THE CONVERSATION INDICATED THAT SMIRNOV WAS UNDER INSTRUCTIONS. MINISTER COUNSELLOR ROUGET OF THE FRG UN MISSION WAS SIMILARLY APPROACHED BY SMIRNOV AND QUESTIONED REGARDING EUROPEAN REACTIONS AND RE THE FRG VIEW OF THE EFFECTS OF THE DEVELOPMENT ON US GOVERNMENTAL AND PUBLIC OPINION.

2. USUN IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATIONS WITH REPS OF OTHER EC-9 GOVERNMENTS DETERMINED THAT THEY HAVE NOT BEEN CONFIDENTIAL

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APPROACHED BY THE SOVIETS. ALL EXPRESSED, HOWEVER, AN

INTEREST IN USG REACTION.

3. VARIOUS USUN OFFICERS WERE CASUALLY QUESTIONED BY A VARIETY OF UN MISSION OFFICERS ON JANUARY 15 RE THE US REACTION TO THIS DEVELOPMENT IN US/USSR RELATIONS AND SPECIFICALLY RE ITS POSSIBLE EFFECT ON DETENTE.

4. COMMENT: BRITISH AND FRG MISOFFS HAVE TAKEN THEIR CONVERSATIONS WITH USSR MISOFF SERIOUSLY AND WILL BE REPORTING TO THEIR CAPITALS. WHILE THEY ARE UNCERTAIN ABOUT THE MEANING OF THE SOVIET APPROACH TO THEM, THEY FIND IT UNUSUAL ENOUGH TO SUGGEST THE POSSIBILITY OF WIDER GEO-POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE. USUN BELIEVES THAT THERE IS A DISTINCT POSSIBILITY THAT THE TRADE ACCORD ISSUE MIGHT WELL BE BLOWN-UP OUT OF ALL PROPORTION AMONG DELEGATIONS TO THE UN. ALTHOUGH WE, OF COURSE, ARE IN A POSITION TO CITE PRESIDENT FORD'S AND SECRETARY KISSINGER'S STATEMENTS ON THIS MATTER, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO HAVE OFFICIAL GUIDANCE RE USG POSITION. END COMMENT.

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